

ATTN: BOX PATENT APPLICATION IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Hiroaki TAKAYAMA, Katsuhiro KONNO and Toshie FUJISHIMA

Appln. No.: 09/214,155 Filed: December 29, 1998

For: VITAMIN

VITAMIN D3 DERIVATIVE AND ITS PRODUCTION METHOD

UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents are submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicants submit the following explanations:

Kobayashi et al; 116th (1996) Congress of The Pharmaceutical Society of Japan, Abstract 3, 88, is disclosed on page 1 in the specification for the above-identified application.

Maki et al; 116th (1996) Congress of The Pharmaceutical Society of Japan, Abstract 2,9, is disclosed on page 2 in the specification for the above-identified application.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Waddell A. Biggart

Registration No. 24,861

SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN, MACPEAK & SEAS 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20037-3202

Tel: (202) 293-7060

WAB/tni

Date: April 14, 1999